

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/14060

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B22F7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B22F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 322 897 B1 (WILLERT-PORADA MONIKA ET AL) 27 November 2001 (2001-11-27) abstract claim 18	1-8
X	US 3 802 850 A (CLOUGHERTY E) 9 April 1974 (1974-04-09) abstract column 1, line 5 - line 27	1-8
X	US 4 101 712 A (BOMFORD MICHAEL J ET AL) 18 July 1978 (1978-07-18) claims	1-8

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

24/02/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Alvazzi Delfrate, M

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/14060

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6322897	B1	27-11-2001	WO 9853940 A1	03-12-1998
			DE 59803436 D1	25-04-2002
			EP 0984839 A1	15-03-2000
			JP 2002502462 T	22-01-2002
US 3802850	A	09-04-1974	NONE	
US 4101712	A	18-07-1978	CH 602237 A5	31-07-1978
			DE 2503165 A1	24-06-1976
			FR 2295809 A1	23-07-1976
			GB 1525290 A	20-09-1978
			JP 1220267 C	26-07-1984
			JP 51087108 A	30-07-1976
			JP 58052524 B	24-11-1983